

## Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /051 W

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R 171240Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7178

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 2914

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MB TD XL

SUBJECT: MARTINIQUE MAYOR HONORED IN TRINIDAD

1. AIME CESAIRE, POET AND MAYOR OF FORT DE FRANCE, WAS GIVEN HONORARY DEGREE AT UNIVERSITY OF WEST INDIES (UWI) COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES IN TRINIDAD ON DECEMBER 14 LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER HIS HIGHLY PUBLICIZED SNUB OF FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING IN MARTINIQUE. FORT DE FRANCE INCIDENT NOT PUBLICIZED HERE UNTIL SUNDAY PAPERS AFTER COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES, HOWEVER.

2. CESAIRE WAS HONORED BY UWI AS POET AND APOSTLE OF NEGRITUDE. IN BRIEF ACCEPTANCE SPEECH HE SPOKE OF ISOLATION OF GUADELOUPE AND MARTINIQUE WITHIN THE REGION DUE TO ARTIFICIAL INHERITANCE FROM METROPOLITAN FRANCE AND CALLED FOR GREATER INTERCHANGE AND IDENTIFICATION WITH THE REST OF THE CARIBBEAN.

3. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE SAME DAY, CESAIRE SPOKE SOMEWHAT MORE BLUNTLY AND DESCRIBED FRENCH ISLANDS IN CARIBBEAN AS "TOTALLY PARALYZED THROUGH THEIR INTEGRATION WITH EUROPE AND SEPARATION FROM THE OTHER ISLANDS." HE STATED HE LOOKED TO THE DAY WHEN MARTINIQUE WOULD BE AUTONOMOUS. MEANWHILE CULTURAL TIES WITH REST OF CARIBBEAN MUST BE STRENGTHENED. HE ADDED THAT HE FELT

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MARTINIQUE IN THE FUTURE MUST FIND ITS IDENTITY IN SOLIDARITY WITH

THE BLACK MAN THROUGHOUT THE CARIBBEAN.

4. COMMENT: WHILE CESAIRE WAS DEMONSTRABLY URBANE AND LETTERED, AND OTHER SPEAKERS QUOTED LIBERALLY FROM HIS POETRY, HIS EPISTLE OF NEGRITUDE HIT A SLIGHTLY ANOMALOUS NOTE AT A COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE AT WHICH NEGRO GRADUATES WERE OUTNUMBERED ALMOST TWO TO ONE BY EAST INDIANS.

MILLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, UNIVERSITIES, HONOR AWARDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Subject:** MARTINIQUE MAYOR HONORED IN TRINIDAD  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MB, TD, XL, (CESAIRE, AIME)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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